Tough-Guy Image, Progressive Politics

Actors whose on-screen persona reads as rugged, patriotic, or gun-friendly, but whose public political statements lean left — with sourced positions.

1. Sylvester Stallone

Image: Rambo, Rocky, The Expendables — the most gun-heavy action filmography in Hollywood.

Public political position: Long-time supporter of gun control. Backed the 1994 Brady Bill's assault-weapons ban, has called for it to be reinstated, supported the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence, and after the Sandy Hook and Aurora shootings said he saw no purpose in civilians owning assault weapons or 40-round magazines. Guns & Ammo magazine and the NRA both listed him among Hollywood's most vocal anti-gun celebrities.

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2. Arnold Schwarzenegger

Image: The Terminator, Commando, Predator — the defining action hero of the 1980s, and a two-term Republican governor of California.

Public political position: Supported the Brady Bill and the 1994 federal assault-weapons ban, and has continued to back stricter gun-safety measures. During the COVID-19 pandemic he drew criticism from many on the right for defending mask and vaccine mandates and lockdown measures in blunt terms, including publicly comparing anti-mandate objections unfavorably to civic duty.

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3. Alan Ritchson

Image: Amazon's Reacher — 6'2", 240 lbs of ex-military, gun-toting Americana.

Public political position: Has said he does not understand Christians who support Donald Trump, criticized law enforcement unions, and in a July 2026 appearance on Dax Shepard's Armchair Expert said people should stay angry enough at Trump, Republicans, and abusive Catholic priests that someone ends up 'in a pool of their own teeth and blood' — remarks widely reported as appearing to justify political violence. He has separately been publicly needled by the White House over the Epstein files.

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4. Robert De Niro

Image: Raging Bull, Goodfellas, Heat — Hollywood's foremost tough-guy/mob-boss archetype.

Public political position: A registered Democrat and one of the industry's most consistent Trump critics since 2011. In a widely circulated 2016 video he called Trump 'a punk, a dog, a pig, a con... an idiot' and said, 'I'd like to punch him in the face.' He has continued the attacks through the 2020s, at one rally calling Trump the country's 'enemy' and urging Americans to 'resist.'

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5. Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson

Image: WWE champion, Hobbs & Shaw, the biggest bicep in Hollywood.

Public political position: Describes himself as a political independent/centrist who has voted for both parties, but made his first-ever presidential endorsement in 2020 for Joe Biden and Kamala Harris, calling them 'the best choice to lead our country.' He later said he wouldn't endorse in 2024, citing the backlash and 'division' the 2020 endorsement caused.

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6. Chris Evans

Image: Captain America — shield, star-spangled suit, the literal embodiment of American patriotism on screen.

Public political position: A frequent, sustained critic of Donald Trump on social media, calling him a 'reckless moron' and, after Trump's 2019 tweets about four congresswomen of color, publicly labeling the remarks 'racist.' Marvel executives have said they never asked him to tone it down. He later founded a political-engagement website, 'A Starting Point.'

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7. Mark Ruffalo

Image: The Hulk — Hollywood's biggest, angriest green rage machine.

Public political position: A longtime progressive activist on environmental, anti-war and economic issues. Has called Trump 'the worst human being in the world,' 'public enemy number one,' urged people to 'get radical' in protest, campaigned for Kamala Harris in 2024, and continued high-profile anti-Trump and 'tax the rich' statements into 2026.

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8. Jason Momoa

Image: Aquaman, Conan, Khal Drogo — arguably the most physically imposing leading man working today.

Public political position: A committed environmental activist who addressed the United Nations on climate change, opposed the Dakota Access Pipeline, supported Black Lives Matter, and has repeatedly criticized the Trump administration's environmental rollbacks.

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9. Liam Neeson

Image: Taken's Bryan Mills — 'a very particular set of skills,' largely involving firearms.

Public political position: A vocal supporter of stricter U.S. gun control. After the 2015 Charlie Hebdo attack he said America has 'too many f---ing guns' and called U.S. gun ownership levels 'a disgrace,' prompting a gun manufacturer to publicly boycott his films.

Note: Views and quotes above are drawn from public statements, interviews, and news reporting as cited by outlets such as CBS News, the Washington Post, Fox News, The Hollywood Reporter, and others. Political stances can and do shift over time; this reflects the most recent publicly documented statements available.